

David Bailie Warden Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2024

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm81044594>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012085>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012
Revised 2024 February

Collection Summary

Title: David Bailie Warden Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1800-1840

ID No.: MSS44594

Creator: Warden, David Bailie, 1772-1845

Extent: 5,000 items

Extent: 28 containers

Extent: 6.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and French

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm81044594>

Summary: Author, book collector, and diplomat. Correspondence, diaries, scientific notes and articles, business papers, historical notes, and miscellaneous material. Includes material relating to Warden's service as private secretary to John Armstrong, U.S. minister to France, and as U.S. consul at Paris.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Armstrong, John, 1758-1843.

Warden, David Bailie, 1772-1845.

Subjects

Diplomatic and consular service, American--France.

Geography.

Indians of North America.

Medicine.

Places

Caribbean Area.

France--Foreign relations--United States.

United States--Foreign relations--France.

Occupations

Authors.

Collectors.

Diplomats.

Acquisition Information

The papers of David Warden Bailie, author, book collector, and diplomat, were given to the library by his grandniece, Margaret A. McGaw, in 1919.

Processing History

The papers of David Warden Bailie were housed and listed in 2001. The finding aid was revised in 2012. The finding aid was updated in 2024 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Other Repositories

Other Warden papers are held by the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Md.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of David Warden Bailie is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of David Warden Bailie are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, David Warden Bailie Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1772	Born at Bally Castle, County Down, Ireland
1797	M. A., University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland
1797, May	Licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Bangor, Scotland
1799	Emigrated to the United States
1801-1804	Principal tutor, Kingston Academy, Ulster County, N.Y.
1804	Admitted to citizenship Became private secretary to John Armstrong, minister to France
1808	Designated consul <i>pro tempore</i>
1810-1814	Consul at Paris, France, and agent for prize cases
1816	<i>Chorographical and Statistical Description of the District of Columbia</i> . Paris : Printed and sold by Smith
1819	Published <i>A Statistical, Political and Historical Account of the United States of America</i> . Edinburgh: Printed for A. Constable and Co; Philadelphia: T. Wardle; and [etc., etc.]. 3 vols.
1820	Published <i>Bibliotheca America Septentrionalis</i> . [Paris, L'imprimerie de Nouzou]
1831	Published <i>Bibliotheca Americana</i> . Paris
1845, Oct. 9	Died, Paris, France

Scope and Content Note

The papers of David Bailie Warden (1772-1845) span the years 1800-1840 and consist of correspondence, diaries, scientific notes and articles, business papers, historical notes, and miscellaneous material. The collection includes material relating to Warden's service as private secretary to John Armstrong, American minister to France, 1804-1808, and later, as United States consul at Paris. Other topics of significance include Warden's studies and interest in Native Americans, the Caribbean, and geography and medicine. The material is in English and French.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in two series:

- [General Correspondence, 1800-1840](#)
- [Miscellany, 1800-1835](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-22

Series

General Correspondence, 1800-1840

Letters sent and received in bound volumes.

Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.

BOX 23-27

Miscellany, 1800-1835

Diaries and journals, scientific and historical notes, jottings, and writings, official memoranda, personal observations from Warden's travels and diplomatic postings, miscellaneous correspondence and letterbooks, and other items.

Arranged by topic or type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-22	General Correspondence, 1800-1840 Letters sent and received in bound volumes. Arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent.
BOX 1	A
BOX 2	Ba-Be
BOX 3	Bi-By
BOX 4	C
BOX 5	D
BOX 6	E
BOX 7	F
BOX 8	G
BOX 9	Ha-He
BOX 10	Hi-Hu
BOX 11	I-J
BOX 12	K-L
BOX 13	Ma-Mat
BOX 14	Mau - Mi
BOX 15	Mo-My
BOX 16	N-O
BOX 17	P
BOX 18	R
BOX 19	Sa-Sp
BOX 20	St-Sy
BOX 21	T-V
BOX 22	W-Z and unsigned
BOX 23-27	Miscellany, 1800-1835 Diaries and journals, scientific and historical notes, jottings, and writings, official memoranda, personal observations from Warden's travels and diplomatic postings, miscellaneous correspondence and letterbooks, and other items. Arranged by topic or type of material.
BOX 23	Letters and copies of letters
BOX 23	Statement of Warden's case against General John Armstrong
BOX 23	Article, Of the Probable Duration of the American Government
BOX 23	Answer by Thomas W. Griffith to Benjamin Stoddert and John Mason in the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, 1808
BOX 23	Miscellaneous literary and historical manuscripts Letters to Warden, 1813, 1826
BOX 23	Scientific memoranda
BOX 23	Articles
BOX 23	Reptiles in the U.S.
BOX 23	Insects in the U.S.

Miscellany, 1800-1835

Container	Contents
BOX 23	North American Fish
BOX 23	Notes on the geography of Texas, etc.
BOX 23	Vocabulary of the Creeks
BOX 24	Letters to Warden, 1812-1828
BOX 24	Notes for Etats Unis de L'Amerique Septentrionale
BOX 24	Notes on American universities and colleges
BOX 24	Catalogue of books relating to China and India
BOX 24	Notes on "the Indians of the Rocky Mountains"
BOX 24	Observation thermometique dans Philadelphia
BOX 24	Notes on vocabularies
BOX 24	Notebook of daily weather observations, seasonal occupations, diseases, birds, flowers, and other topics, at Kinderhook, Kingston, Hudson Valley, N.Y., 1800-1802
BOX 24	Notes on California, the Islands of the Pacific, Peru, Colombia, Chile
BOX 24	Scientific memoranda
BOX 25	Letters and copies of letters
BOX 25	Scientific and historical notes
BOX 25	Papers concerning the Imperial Prize Court, Paris, France
BOX 25	U.S. consular business, 1806-1810
BOX 25	Letterbooks, 1800-1810, 1825-1827
BOX 26	Consular matters, 1810-1813
BOX 26	Scientific memoranda
BOX 26	Notes on "the number of Indians at the commencement of the European settlements in America and a description of those residing within the present limits of the United States"
BOX 26	Notes on Patagonia, etc.
BOX 26	Diary, 1816-1824
BOX 26	Notes on "medicine, ornithology, philosophy, law, the history of the American Indians and miscellaneous scientific memoranda"
BOX 27	Historical notes
BOX 27	Île de Tobago
BOX 27	Île St. Vincent
BOX 27	La Grenade
BOX 27	Las Tortugas
BOX 27	Ile St. Dominique
BOX 27	Île de Monserrat
BOX 27	Île de Curacao
BOX 27	Île St. Lucie
BOX 27	Île de Santa Cruz
BOX 27	Îles Vievges
BOX 27	Île St. Christophe
BOX 27	Îles Bermudes
BOX 27	Îles Bahamas
BOX 28	Geographical notes
BOX 28	Warden's diary of visits, 1829-1835
BOX 28	<i>Les Lecons Chimiques</i> , by Du M. Vauguelin, [23 November 1803]
BOX 28	Journal